

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 05888 041602Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 041530Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9894

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 5888

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP CSCE GR US

SUBJ: GREEK OFFICIALS EXTREMELY HAPPY WITH HELSINKI MEETINGS

REF SECTO 8086

1. SINCE PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS' RETURN TO ATHENS FROM HELSINKI SATURDAY AFTERNOON, I HAVE MET OR SPOKEN WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS, DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF, AND CHEF DU CABINET MOLYVIATIS. ALL HAVE REFLECTED CONSIDERABLE SATISFACTION AND, INDEED, HAPPINESS WITH THEIR MEETINGS LAST WEEK IN HELSINKI. IN ADDITION TO THEIR FEELING ABOUT THE OVERALL SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE GREATLY IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE IT HAS PROVIDED FOR PROGRESS ON PROBLEMS OF SPECIFIC CONCERN TO GREECE, THEY FELT THEY ACHIEVED WIDER RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING FOR THE POSITIONS OF THE CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT. THEY WERE ALSO ESPECIALLY REASSURED AND RELIEVED WITH THE TENOR OF THE MEETINGS AND CONTACTS WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER.

2. BITSIOS TOLD ME TODAY THAT HE AND CARAMANLIS HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT CONCERNED ABOUT HOW THEIR MEETINGS WOULD GO WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY, PARTICULARLY FOLLOWING OUR VIGOROUS AND AT TIMES ALMOST ANGRY CONFRONTATIONS WITH GREEK OFFICIALS THE PRIOR

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PAGE 02 ATHENS 05888 041602Z

WEEK IN CONNECTION WITH CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF

AID TO TURKEY. BITSIOS SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN INITIAL "WAVE" OF TENSION AND DISAPPOINTMENT BUT THAT THIS SERVED TO CLEAR THE AIR AND AFTERWARDS HIS AND CARAMANLIS' CONTACTS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAD BEEN "VERY SMOOTH AND CONSTRUCTIVE." BITSIOS SAID THAT CARAMANLIS HAD ONCE AGAIN BEEN VERY MUCH ATTRACTED TO PRESIDENT FORD AND FELT THAT THE TWO LEADERS HAD "REACHED A FULL UNDERSTANDING" ON MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST. MOLYVIATIS TOLD ME THAT CARAMANLIS FELT HE HAD HAD "A VERY GOOD MEETING" WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THAT THERE WAS EXCELLENT RAPPORT BETWEEN THE TWO MEN. AVEROFF TOLD ME THAT CARAMANLIS HAD TOLD HIM OVER THE WEEKEND THAT THE ATMOSPHERE AT HIS MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT WAS "EXCELLENT."

3. AS FOR THE CONTENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, BITSIOS GAVE ME A GENERAL FILL-IN WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAILS, VERIFYING THE REPORT CONTAINED REFTEL. FOR REPORTS OF OTHER SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN HELSINKI AND WHICH I COVERED WITH BITSIOS HERE IN ATHENS TODAY, SEE SEPTELS. KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ARMS EMBARGO, LEGISLATIVE BILLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, PFOR, GR, US, CSCE, (FORD, GERALD R), (CARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE)  
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